

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

July 25, 2005

The Honorable Frank Wolf
Chairman
Subcommittee on Science, State, Justice and Commerce
H-309 Capitol House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Wolf:

Thank you for your interest in combating the methamphetamine epidemic that is sweeping this nation. As you prepare to go to conference, we seek your support for the inclusion of H.R. 2335, the Meth-Endangered Children Protection Act of 2005, within the Science, State, Justice and Commerce Appropriations bill.


As you well know, methamphetamine use is spreading rapidly through the U.S. and clandestine labs are quickly popping up across the country. Each year, thousands of innocent children become the victims of this meth epidemic. Toxic meth emissions and residue settle on the furniture, floors and other surfaces where these children live. Children exposed to meth because of a lab in a home often live in dangerously filthy conditions. They face immediate health and safety risks; physical, emotional and sexual abuse; and extreme neglect on a daily basis.

Between 2000 and 2003, approximately 10,600 children in the U.S. were either present at lab seizures or lived where the labs were seized. Another 2,900 children were removed from their homes during the same period because of neglect or abuse by meth-addicted parents. Incidents related to meth labs also accounted for injuries to 96 children and the deaths of eight others.

H.R. 2335, the Meth-Endangered Children Protection Act, seeks to help states provide the critical specialized services meth-endangered children need to overcome the effects of meth exposure and thrive in a safe, healthy environment. This legislation would assist states in rendering services such as decontamination, medical treatment, mental and developmental assessments, foster care placement, training for social workers and foster care providers, and case management. It would create a five-year, \$10 million annual competitive grant program to support model drug endangered children programs and assist other states in establishing similar programs. Grantees would be required to provide matching dollars for federal funds awarded under this grant.

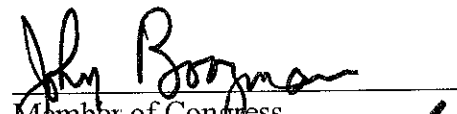
We hope you will consider including this important legislation in the SSIC bill as it moves forward. Once again, thank you for working with us as we search for ways to prevent this horrible scourge.

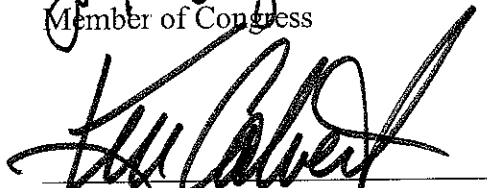
Sincerely,


Jim Cooper
Member of Congress


Amy Walden
Member of Congress

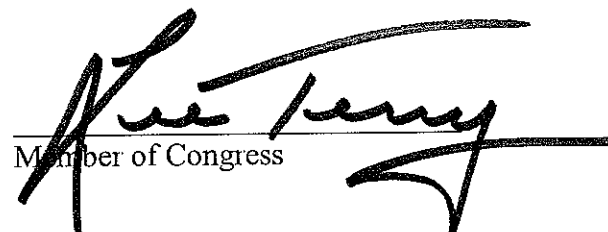

Ray Green
Member of Congress

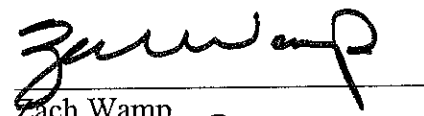

John Boozman
Member of Congress

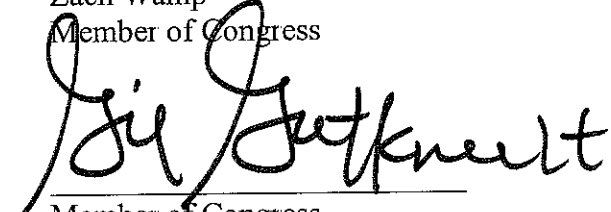

Eli Claitor
Member of Congress

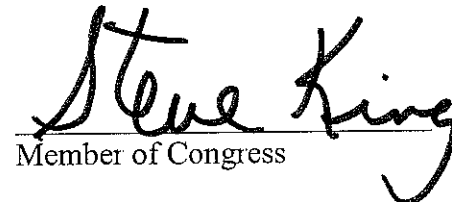

Ron Lewis
Member of Congress



Mark Souder
Member of Congress


Keri Perry
Member of Congress

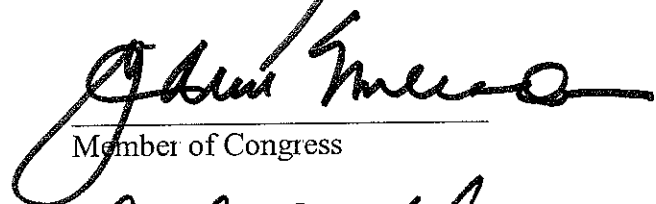

Zach Wamp
Member of Congress

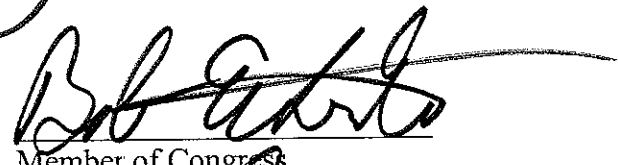

Gil Gekker
Member of Congress

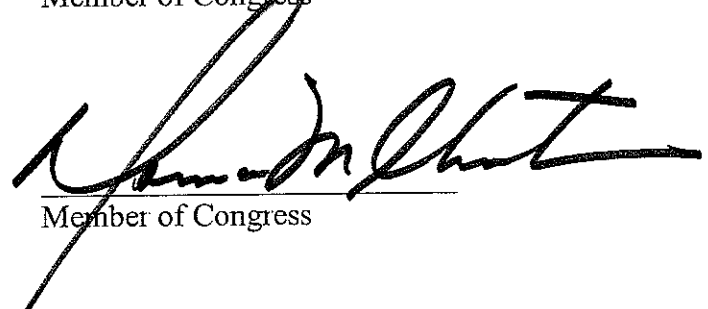

Steve King
Member of Congress


Tom Osborne
Member of Congress


D. Beilke
Member of Congress


John Muench
Member of Congress


Bob Gable
Member of Congress


Randy McIntosh
Member of Congress

Ben Chandler

Member of Congress

Devin Nunes

Member of Congress

Member of Congress

Jim Matheson

Member of Congress

Member of Congress

Robert Wittman

Member of Congress

Mike Ross

Member of Congress

Harold Gohmert

Member of Congress

Member of Congress

Tommy Tuberville

Member of Congress

Bart Gordon

Member of Congress

Member of Congress

Member of Congress

Member of Congress

Jim Cooper
Gary Walden
Kay Granger
John Boozman
Ken Calvert
Ron Lewis
Mark Souder
Lee Terry

Zach Wamp
Gil Gutknecht
Steve King
Tom Osborne
David Reichert
Jo Ann Emerson
Bob Etheridge
Donna Christensen

Ben Chandler

Bobby Scott
Mike Ross
Lincoln Davis
Bart Gordon
Sheila Jackson-Lee

Dennis Moore
Jim Matheson
Robert Wexler
Harold Ford
William Jefferson
Eni Faleomavaega